

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 2nd August 2020 Eighth Sunday after Trinity



8am Said Holy Communion, Service in Church 10am Service of the Word, Service in Church & broadcast by Zoom

You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:

- 1. Come to Church All are welcome!
- 2. Join with Zoom on your computer

When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting' (Meeting ID **846 662 9590**, Password **834900**).

3. Join with Audio Zoom via phone

a) Call 0131 460 1196

- b) Enter Meeting ID: 846 662 9590 followed by #
- c) You may be asked to enter Participant ID: press #
- d) Enter Meeting Password: 834900 followed by #

You will be muted automatically when you join the 'meeting' (service).

Whether or not you might like to do this, let's be aware of the prayerful communion in God's Spirit that we all share, wherever we are, whether or not we are able to talk, video-conference or communicate with one another.

I mention you always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will, I may succeed in coming to you. For I long to see you, that I may impart some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. Romans 1. 9-11

A Zoom meeting is scheduled with June for fellowship and conversation at <u>10:40am</u> on Sunday, (after the end of the 10am service). Meeting ID - 822 740 0814 (716922). Derek will offer Zoom fellowship at <u>11:15am</u>: Meeting ID - 927 480 8728 (889123).

Collect for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Children's resources -

With this week's newsletter on the website we attach a copy of <u>'Look</u>'. Each week the Gospel story is explained in age appropriate language. A prayer and activities that will engage the children are included, to help each child get to know the person of Jesus.

Or perhaps try a Godly Story? They're fantastic visual versions of the scriptures. This week, the story 'The Loaves and the Fishes' from the Gospel for today, with wondering questions for families to talk about together. It's on YouTube <a href="https://example.com/here.co

Psalm for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity, Psalm 145. 8-9, 15-22 Refrain: Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness.

The Lord is loving to everyone and his mercy is over all his creatures. [R]

The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all those who are bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season [R] You open wide your hand and fill all things living with plenty.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully. [R] He fulfils the desire of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

The Lord watches over those who love him, but all the wicked shall he destroy.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord.

and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever. [R]

A hymn for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Last year, we sang 'Jerusalem the golden' at our 10am service on this day. You might like to listen and perhaps sing along to this version by Ely Cathedral Choir: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-iLvN-R13KE

Gospel for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity, Matthew 14. 13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

You might find it a gift to play 'Mary's Song' – Paul Burrell, its composer, played a piano version at Holy Communion on Wednesday, the Feast of Mary, Martha and Lazarus. He's given me permission to share it and it's available on the 'Media' section of our website. If you do play it, I pray it brings you blessing, Derwyn.



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The church is open for Personal Prayer 11am-1pm Monday to Friday, 10-11am Saturday, 10:45-11:30am Sunday.

Face coverings – Wearing a face covering in church is not mandatory until next Saturday 8th August, but government guidance currently strongly advises that it be done.

Participation at services in church and via Zoom – It is good to be developing a kind of 'hybrid' church in this period while some of us are able to gather in the building and others are worshipping at home. It's good too to share the leading of our services between a range of voices. If anyone else would like to volunteer to participate in services – reading, praying, etc., do please let us know. This can be in person in church, or, for 10am services, via Zoom, if you cannot yet be with us in the building. We would also value more stewards for the Personal Prayer sessions, 10am Wednesdays and 10am Sundays. Thank you for considering. Derwyn.

Derek will be presiding at Holy Communion in church on Wednesday 5th August. The service will also be broadcast by Zoom for those unable to attend in person. You can also dial in by phone. Meeting ID 927 480 8728, Password 889123.

Would you like to join a Prayers for our Community session: 9:30am, Saturday 8th August? We meet in Church each Saturday but also be broadcast via Zoom for the time being. Meeting ID: 458 034 0358, Password 435609.

Raise money for St Michael's Charities Support Group causes whilst having some treasure hunt fun – The group has put together a walking treasure hunt through the town as part of their red bucket appeal for the Covid-19 Pandemic. Questions will be available on our website from 15th August, until 31st August when entries need to be completed. A donation to the appeal (details of how to do this on the question sheet) would be greatly appreciated. Answers and winners will be published in September.

COVID-19 MEGA RED BUCKET APPEAL FROM THE CHARITIES SUPPORT GROUP

We are launching a Mega Red Bucket Appeal in response to emergency requests from charities and an awareness of the huge global needs caused by the pandemic.

We will split the money between larger and smaller charities. Half will go to major Christian charities, namely Christian Aid, Tearfund and World Vision. Half will go to selected smaller charities particularly need of funding due to the pandemic.

The Red Bucket is partly a virtual one using electronic donations, or contributions can be made by cash or cheque in church on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Full details for donating by BACS, text or cheque are on <u>the website</u>. The appeal will run through August and September.

Thank you in advance for your support.

If you'd like the Prayer Chain to pray for some concern which is on your heart, please make your prayer request to the coordinator, Diane Pettitt: diane.pettitt@hotmail.com / 461845. Requests are strictly confidential to the Prayer Chain, who will simply pray as asked and a request won't lead to further contact or action. If a request to the Prayer Chain would help, don't hesitate to make it.

Charities Support Group news – We are pleased to report that in the last few weeks we have made donations to 16 of the 30 charities we regularly support. To prioritise our contributions, we looked carefully at each to see which were most in need of the funds at this time. Lots more information on the <u>website</u> (or ask the Office for a copy).

A message of thanks – to everyone who has responded with gifts to help the church's finances. If you'd like to read the Vicar's message about money, with information regarding donating to St Michael's and downloadable standing order/gift aid forms, please visit the Notices page on our website. The 2019 finance documents are now available to view on the website here.

Bishop's Stortford Money Advice Centre is a voluntary organisation staffed by a trained team of volunteer Christian debt advisers. All advice is free. They offer non-judgmental advice and are supported by local churches. If you might benefit from speaking to them please visit their <u>website</u> for more information or call 01279 652523.

Daily Hope free phone line – Daily Hope is a free national phone line and offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

Virtual Holiday Bible Week, '2020 Vision' – The daily Bible stories, (with links to videos and songs), fun sheets and activity packs are now available from the HBW website: https://holidaybibleweek.co.uk/news/ Have fun!!

A very different Bike 'n Hike, Saturday 12th September – This is the most important fundraiser for the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust and they'd love at least one person from each parish to be sponsored to walk/cycle round as many churches as they can on this day. Special protocols will be put in place this year and some churches may not be open, no register, perhaps no welcomers, and bring your own refreshments. More details in due course but contact the Parish Office if you're interested in taking part.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) 653867 C The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) 652173 I The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 771756

Rob Klincke (Reader) 833523

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